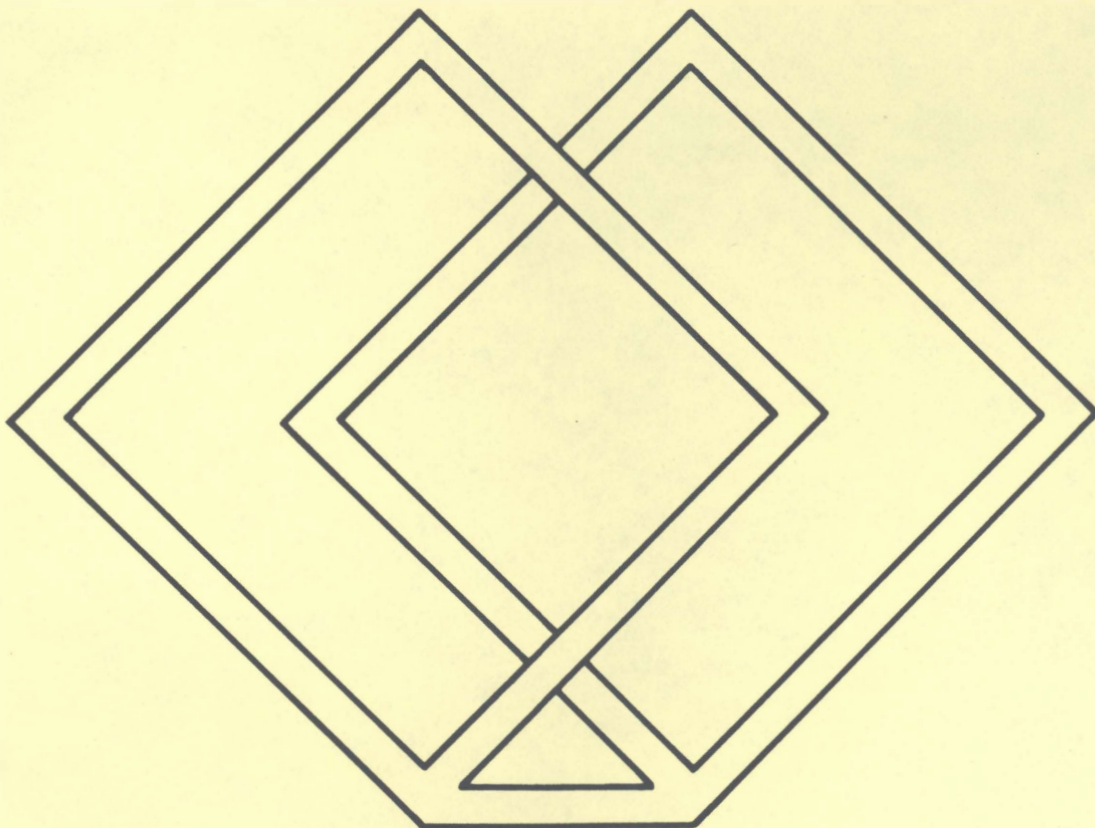


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I N D E X

<u>Item</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Pages</u>
Editorial	Frank Gillespie	1.
From the Martian Microcosm of UFOs to the Emerging, Weak Religion (Pt. 1)	Louis Winkler	2-8.
Gillespie's 'Undercover UFO Theory': A Reply	John Prytz	8-11.
Some Implications of the School Excursion Hypothesis	Frank Gillespie	12-13.
ACUFOS Bibliography Service	John Prytz	14-19.
Publications Available from ACUFOS		20.

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EDITORIAL

by Frank Gillespie

NOT MARTIANS, BUT WHAT?

Once in a while, a paper of great merit, the result of really outstanding research work will surface, and gladden the heart of the fortunate editor who receives it. A case in point is the paper on Martian UFO type events by Louis Winkler which commences in this issue.

There has been considerable discussion about the possibility of UFOs being around pre-1945, but relatively few candidate events have been uncovered up until now. Winkler's extensive search through early records leaves very little doubt that UFO phenomena existed well back into the nineteenth century. However, as so often happens, these findings are open to more than one interpretation. Winkler, of course, has his own ideas; but I believe this new evidence just adds to the overall UFO mystery.

UFOs ≠ Martians still leaves incomplete the only important equation, UFOs = ???

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by Louis Winkler

FIRST MARTIAN ARRIVALS

About every 2.1 years Mars is found opposite the sun making it possible to view the planet through the night. Because the orbit of the earth is nearly circular and the orbit of Mars is much more elliptical, distances between earth and Mars at oppositions vary. So, every 15 to 17 years a close opposition of about 35 million miles occurs.

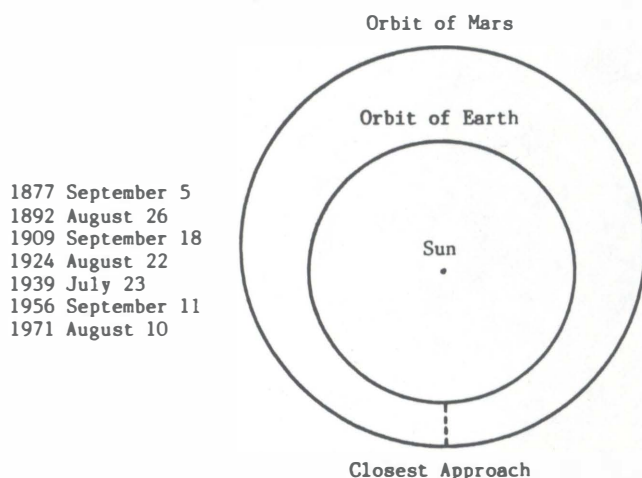


Figure 1. Orbits of earth and Mars showing variation in their separation. Position of closest approach or most favorable opposition is designated.

During one of these favorable oppositions, that of September 5, 1877, Mars was catapulted into the forefront of solar system sensations.

In August of 1877 Asaph Hall of the U.S. Naval Observatory discovered not one, but two small satellites of Mars, and named them Phobos and Deimos, after the horses that drew the chariot of the Roman god of Mars. The 19th century was one of discovery of major members in the solar system, and up to the time of Hall's discoveries, included the planet Neptune, one or more moons of Saturn, Uranus and Neptune and numerous sightings of the nonexistent, intra-mercurial planet, Vulcan. So the announcement of the discovery of a third moon of Mars by Henry Draper, American pioneer in the application of photography to spectra, was in the character of the era. The third moon, however, turned out to be an error and the harbinger of a full century of a comedy of errors with Mars.

There was hardly a month of rest when sensational announcements appeared during October in the Santa Fe, Argentina newspaper La Capital, that a huge aerolite

had been discovered in nearby Carcarãna. What made this aerolite so special was that it was an "ovoid stone" which reportedly contained the body of a Martian! It was evident the creature was from Mars because a map of the solar system was found on board that had Mars drawn out of proportion. Funny thing about the map is that the solar system only went out to Neptune. Didn't the Martians in 1877 know about Pluto? Unfortunately, what would have been the world's largest meteorite was never recovered, and what would have been the first Martian interplanetary craft and body in hand was never exhibited either. So as early as 1877 we were faced with the first suspected Martian hoax, perpetrated by a retired, American geologist, A. Sevard and his two associates.

Well, they hardly caught their breath over the marvellous discoveries of late 1877 when on January 24, 1878 a Denison, Texas farmer reported a dark flying object in the shape of a disc, cruising high in the sky and described it as "a saucer". This terminology would only become popular in 1947 when Ken Arnold would report his historic sighting near Mt. Ranier, Washington state and start the incessant deluge of modern UFO reports.

Meanwhile, the professional astronomers were busily making observations of the surface features of Mars. One of the results was that some Brazilian observers ventured a guess that the dark areas of the planet near the equator were vegetation, which complemented the white polar regions that had long been thought of as ice. Most important of the observations made during the opposition however were those of the Italian astronomer Givanni Schiaparelli. He reported that he saw large linear features and called them canali. While others reported these features years before, Schiaparelli was able to capture the imagination of the world. Indeed, Schiaparelli would continue to observe his linear features in future oppositions and even see many of them doubling, or "geminating" as he described it. According to him:

"The observation of the gemination is one of the greatest difficulty and can only be made by an eye well practised in such work, added to a telescope of accurate construction and of great power."

Riding on the coat tails of this first mini-wave of Martian phenomena was the

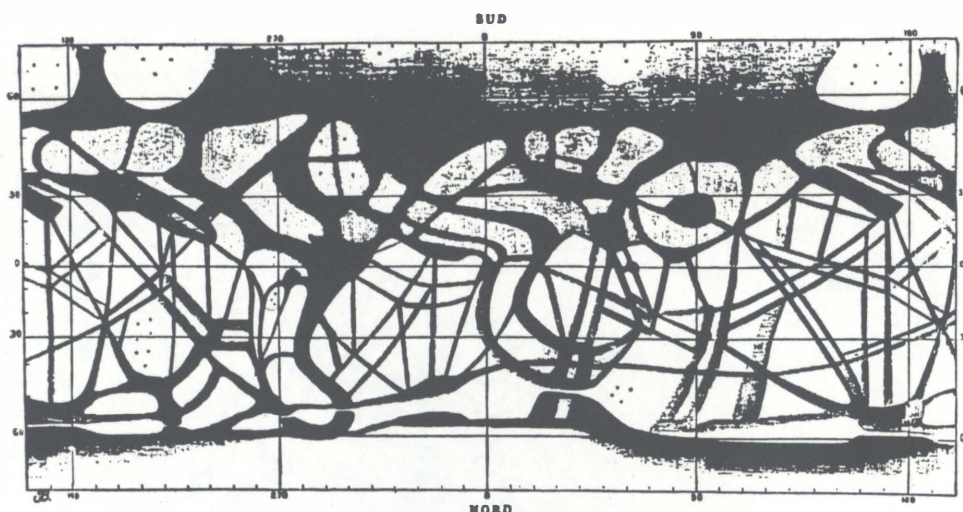


Figure 2. Canals of Mars sketched by Schiaparelli in 1881 and 1882.

appearance of the first science fiction story concerning Mars, "Across the Zodiac", authored by Percy Greg of England in 1880. It was still twelve years before the next favorable opposition and only one noteworthy event seems to have occurred in the interim. In August of 1887 in Banjos, Spain two "strange" children were found emerging from a cave. The children's clothes were of unidentifiable material, they spoke an unrecognizable tongue, and their skin was "leaf green". Since it was not possible to establish the origin or identity of the children it was presumed they came from Mars! The color green would hereafter often be associated with visitors from Mars and elsewhere.

Scientific and popular interest in extra-terrestrial life, especially existing on Mars, had been sufficiently developed by the end of the 19th century that thought was given to making contact. With the death of the widow of the Frenchman, Pierre Guzman, in 1891, a prize of 100,000 francs was left for anyone who could establish contact with any planet or star inhabitant. According to the will of the Guzman family the prize would be offered for a period of 10 years. The idea of offering monetary rewards for activity regarding extra-terrestrial intelligence would be repeated many decades later by the National Enquirer and American editor Philip Klass.

The next favorable opposition of Mars occurring in 1892 witnessed relatively little in the way of sensations, but more observational evidence was gathered by astronomers regarding the habitability of the planet. American astronomer William Pickering observed that the canali were intersecting the dark regions which he termed "oases", and

the French astronomer, Camille Flammarion, authored a book entitled "La planete Mars ses conditions d'habitabilite". With the little data available, Flammarion had already concluded that Mars was probably inhabited by a race superior to ours. In so many modern UFO reports it is also concluded that the aliens are superior to us.

In spite of the great difficulty in observing the canali and their geminat-

ion, many other competent observers confirmed Schiaparelli's observations. Among them were Harvard's Percival Lowell who established an observatory in 1894 at Flagstaff, Arizona for the primary purpose of observing Mars. At his newly established observatory Lowell made a startling discovery. He observed:

"...shining specks (on the Martian surface) quite unlike anything ever seen before,...(which) are exceptionally favorable to the hypothesis that Martians are trying to signal us."

Perhaps Lowell was thinking of signals by the Martians because there already had been several suggested methods of communication with Mars. In 1819 Johann von Littrow of Vienna suggested lighting fires in geometrical patterns, and in 1892 the English anthropologist, Francis Galton, suggested we try signalling Mars by flashing mirrors simultaneously. Galton was convinced that there was already a need for an "interstellar language".

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

In the late fall of 1896, sightings of "mysterious airships" started to originate along the central coast of California. The sightings were electrifying because it was the dawn of the age of the airplane and other marvellous practical inventions. Some of the sightings were misidentifications of celestial objects or some form of hoax, but others involved elaborate descriptions of airship contraptions, some of which carried Martians. Near Stockton, three "warbling" Martians attempted to abduct a man, but were unsuccessful. This reported event was not only similar to later UFO reports of

close encounters, but it also involved an abduction, which is also characteristic of some UFO accounts emerging in the 1950's.

For some reason, however, the Martians stopped their activity during the winter of 1897, but then resumed operations in full force in the spring. Near Springfield, Mo. a man who said he didn't believe in the airships previously, now said he did because he discovered a "vessel" with four legs and two nude Martians just outside it. Except for the lack of clothes this sounds similar to the 1964 event reported in Socorro, N.M. where the UFO operated by two humanoids left four large imprints behind.

With time the Martian stories became escalated. An airship with a Martian pilot was reported to have crash landed in Aurora, Texas leaving behind much damage and debris, making it the first incident with extensive physical evidence, much the way many UFO stories would proceed in the future. Once again hard evidence of extra-terrestrial visitation was in hand, but all these Texans did was bury the evidence and mark it with a tombstone! But, strangely enough, even the tombstone disappeared in 1973, making it impossible to retrieve any of the evidence. Could this like the Carcarãna event be a hoax too?

Well, Kansas was not going to be outdone by Texas, so they reported that in their state, a live heifer was hoisted aboard an airship by six Martians. The remains of the animal were found the next day, and we had experienced our first cattle mutilation story which became a popular manifestation for UFO stories in the western U.S. There were so many Martians visiting earth now, report of the first flying saucer with a dome was received from Carlinville, Ill.

The literary world was well aware of the ongoing activity and a flurry of science fiction publications resulted. Kurd Lasswitz authored "Auf Zwei Planeten" involving travel to Mars with a gravity nullifying device. Most noteworthy of this flurry however was Herbert G. Wells' "War of the Worlds" which in 1897 had the Martians land outside of London and then invade it. The story was so appealing that it appeared in the magazine Cosmopolitan in late 1897 and in the Boston Post in serial form in early 1898. The series title was "Fighters from Mars or the War of the Worlds in and near Boston". Evidently the Wells story affected some of the academic community too. Arrival of the Martians was marked by the appearance of a bright meteor, so in late 1897 when Binghamton, N.Y. experienced a meteorite fall which was accompanied by a blinding flash, it was concluded the meteor-



Figure 3. The nonhuman form of Martian life depicted in H.G. Wells's science fiction story "War of the Worlds".

ite was from Mars. According to Prof. Wiggins of Ontario, the strange markings within the meteorite were a message from Mars in a language understood by no one!

Publications of the "War of the Worlds" were so successful they were immediately followed with a sequel in the Boston Post and the New York Journal. This time, instead of Martians invading earth, we invaded Mars and the new series was entitled: "How the people of all the earth, fearful of a second invasion from Mars, under the inspiration and leadership of Thomas Edison, the great inventor, combined to Conquer the Warlike planet". The sequel was possible logically since the Martians never did succeed in conquering earth because they died of diseases acquired on earth. The sequel was written by our astronomer Garrett P. Serviss with the collaboration of Edison.

Of all the 1897 events it was Wells' story which would influence more people, and among them was the American rocket pioneer Robert H. Goddard. When the Boston Post series appeared he was a teenager and he indicated that "War of the Worlds" "...gripped (his) imagination tremendously - and the spell was never broken." throughout his many years of experiments with rockets.

Another direct legacy of the Wells story was a series of movies, covering decades, on the subject of Mars. The first of these movies was a silent short called "A Message from Mars" based on a play with the same name which was staged in 1899. The movie was very popular and it was released a number of times, as late as 1921. Shortly after this rerelease, the motion picture industry would introduce the public to their first 3D-glasses movie. Naturally, the new release was another one on Mars, entitled "Man from Mars".

At the close of the 19th century our first serious report of a trip to Mars was made by an individual. Helen Smith, a mystical medium, related her travels through space to a Swiss psychologist, Theodore Flournoy while under hypnosis. This account is obviously the forerunner of two of the landmark cases in the modern field of ufology. One case is the reported trip taken in the early 1950's to Mars, as well as other places, by George Adamski. The Smith incident also resembles the abduction account of Barney and Betty Hill which took place in 1961, but was only revealed

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Figure 4. Some of Helen Smith's Martian language written while under hypnosis in 1898.

under hypnosis in 1964. Even the evidence of the Hill account in the form of a star map is rivalled in the Smith trip because a dictionary of Martian words was generated with French equivalents.

Shortly after the turn of the century the ten year period specified in the Cruzman will had expired regarding the 100,000 franc prize for extra-terrestrial contact. So the competition was renewed, but now the likelihood of intelligent life existing on Mars was perceived as so great that making contact with Mars would not qualify for the prize. Contact with these close neighbours of ours was so easy that it would hardly stimulate technological and scientific developments sufficiently!

Being that easy to contact Mars, many ideas then emerged regarding how it could be realized. In 1901 Dr. Schmail made the suggestion that we could outline on earth with lights, well known constellations, like

the "Great Bear and Orion", and if the pattern was repeated by the Martians you had your reply. Inventor Nicola Tesla who once worked for Edison thought that the wireless disturbances he created during experiments in 1899 and 1900 were sufficiently strong already to have been detected on Mars. If the Martians hadn't detected these signals he could easily design the appropriate wireless transmitter that would allow detection. Tesla felt the best way to signal Mars was with radio waves because it was too impractical to work with visible light. It was just being generally recognized that if we communicated with Mars at opposition we could only send signals during the Martian daytime which would tend to obliterate all but the strongest of optical signals sent from earth.

Meanwhile, controversy was developing as to the significance of the changing surface features of Mars and as to whether Mars was habited or not, or even habitable or not. In 1906 Lowell wrote a book "Mars and Its Canals", arguing that indeed Mars was habited:

"That Mars is habited by beings of some sort or other we may consider as certain as it is uncertain what these beings may be."

Lowell by this time had acquired the dubious distinction for converting the terminology for Schiaparelli's canali, meaning linear features, to "canals", which connotes grooves carrying water.

During September of 1909 the next favorable opposition of Mars would occur, so a few months before the opposition the first alien landing of the new century was reported in Caerphilly, Wales. Two men with fur coats emerged from a cylindrical object, which happened to be the type of object in which the Martians made their interplanetary journey in "War of the Worlds". The year 1909 was also important to Lowell since he severed his relations with Harvard. He was not getting the recognition he thought he deserved for his Martian observations and dedicated himself to further observations at his Flagstaff Observatory. The fact that UFO reports around the time of this favorable opposition were not spectacular might have been due to the fact that an apparition of Halley's comet was expected.

IMMINENT CONTACT

By the fall of 1913 there was a wide spread air of certainty that intelligent life existed on Mars. The New York Times announced with a grand, illustrated article:

THEORY THAT MARTIANS EXIST STRONGLY CORROBORATED

STRIKING SIMILARITY OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF MARS TAKEN BY PROF. LOWELL AND BY JARRY-DESLOGES AT DIFFERENT TIMES AND PLACES

Lowell,
Oct. 12, 1901.

Jarry-Desloges,
Oct. 25, 1911.

Lowell,
Oct. 12, 1901.

Jarry-Desloges,
Oct. 25, 1911.

Lowell,
Oct. 12, 1901.

Jarry-Desloges,
Oct. 25, 1911.

Lowell,
Oct. 12, 1901.

Jarry-Desloges,
Oct. 25, 1911.



French Astronomer Obtains Photographs of Mars Which Show Remarkable Similarity to Prof. Lowell's Pictures of So-called "Canals."

PROF. PERCEVAL LOWELL'S much discussed, much criticized, but not less so, much admired, sketches of Mars have been found to have a striking similarity to the photographs of Mars obtained by the French astronomer, Jarry-Desloges, at different times and places.

The American astronomer built his case up largely on the evidence of the sketches of Mars, which he described as "canals." The French astronomer, on the other hand, has obtained photographs of Mars, which he described as "canals." The American astronomer built his case up largely on the evidence of the sketches of Mars, which he described as "canals." The French astronomer, on the other hand, has obtained photographs of Mars, which he described as "canals."

There has been so much criticism of Lowell's work, that it is not surprising that the French astronomer, Jarry-Desloges, should have obtained photographs of Mars, which he described as "canals." The American astronomer built his case up largely on the evidence of the sketches of Mars, which he described as "canals." The French astronomer, on the other hand, has obtained photographs of Mars, which he described as "canals."

The great trouble with this line of reasoning is that it is based on the assumption that the sketches of Mars, which Lowell described as "canals," are in fact canals. This is a very dangerous assumption, and it is one that should not be made.



Prof. Percival Lowell of Harvard.

about the height of Blue Hill, with the height also in at Blue Hill, at 3,700 feet.

The atmospheric conditions in a desert are not favorable to observation of Mars. It is in the line of the French astronomer, Jarry-Desloges, who obtained photographs of Mars, which he described as "canals."

There is a striking similarity between the sketches of Mars, which Lowell described as "canals," and the photographs of Mars, which Jarry-Desloges described as "canals." This is a very striking similarity, and it is one that should not be overlooked.

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Figure 5. The "corroboration" that intelligent life existed on Mars was the "striking similarity" of sketches of photographs of Mars made at different times independently by P. Lowell and W. Jarry-Desloges during 1911. (From the New York Times of November 9, 1913)

"Theory that Martians exist strongly corroborated"

What happened was that a Frenchman, Jarry-Desloges, photographed Mars from different places on earth at different times in 1911 and found that these photographs agreed with other photographs made by Lowell in the same year. That is, sketches made of the canals in each photograph bore a "striking similarity". This announcement greatly promoted arguments by Lowell and others regarding life on Mars. Flammarion wrote:

"All friends of science will thank M. Jarry-Desloges for the precious contribution that he has just brought to the Martian cause. We advance little by little, slowly but surely."

After the announcement of the corroboration a worldwide lull fell over the UFO world apparently occurring because everyone was waiting for contact to begin with Mars.

Charles Steinmetz, American inventor, felt that if erratic radio signals received from Mars could be decoded we could prove they were trying to communicate with us. William Marconi, who designed one of the wirelesses which were used to listen to Mars, was convinced Martians were signalling, and LeCoultre de Switzerland was also convinced Mars was signalling because he saw blue flashes of light on the planet. The erroneous idea that extra-terrestrial contact had been made through the reception of electromagnetic transmission would be repeated again in 1965 when Soviet astronomer Kardashev would misinterpret radio radiations from two objects now called quasars.

In 1920 Nieman and Nieman got the idea that a series of pulse coded radio signals could be transmitted and then reconstructed into a picture. This idea was actually employed in 1974 to attempt communication with extra-terrestrial intelligence when the large radio instrument at Arecibo,

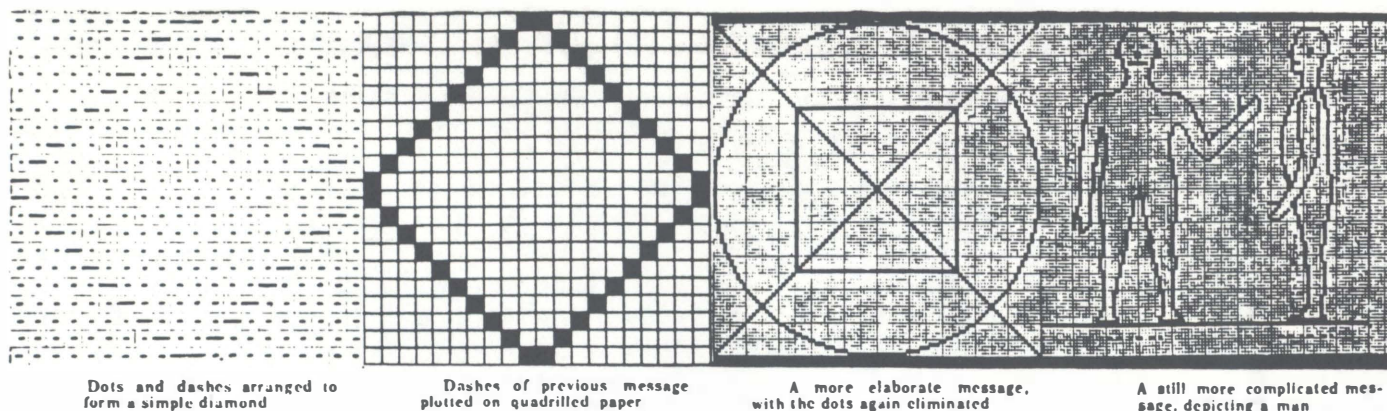


Figure 6. Pulse coded signals proposed in 1920 by H.W. Nieman and C.W. Nieman to be sent to Mars.
(From Scientific American, March 20, 1920)

Puerto Rico was used to transmit a picture to the globular cluster in Hercules. In the same year that Nieman and Nieman published their idea the French Academy of Science once again offered 100,000 francs for anyone who could make a sign and get a reply from any extra-terrestrial source and now removed the restriction on Mars for contact.

While the world waited for confirmation of contact, the science fiction films on Mars that started to be made around the turn of the century continued with even greater intensity. Although they were low budget and low quality they were enormously popular. Edison was technical adviser in 1919 for the film entitled "Hello, Mars" because he already had experience with the Boston Post's Serviss story. The idea of a technical expert for an alien film would be repeated again in 1976 by J. Allen Hynek for the film "Close Encounters of the Third Kind". Another noteworthy early film on Mars was "Barsoom", the name used for the planet, which was written by Edgar Burroughs, the creator of Tarzan and a science fiction book on Mars. One of our modern science fiction writers R. Bradbury, who authored "The Martian Chronicles" indicates he was influenced by Burroughs. Although Martian films continued to be produced into the 1950's the last of a serialized set was the 1938 movie entitled "Flash Gordon's Trip to Mars", which appeared in fifteen episodes.

The longer it took to make contact with Mars the more ideas that developed as to how contact could be made. Flammarion's belief in the existence of intelligent life never diminished and in 1923 he said:

"Mars is as full of life as the earth
...(and)...we shall correspond with
psychic waves."

What he was referring to was telepathic

communication which is the communication mode reported in some modern UFO encounters with aliens. In America desire for contact with the Martians was so great that for the favorable opposition of 1924 the public prevailed upon the federal government for periods of radio silence. Units of the Army Signal Corp and Navy were to cease radio transmissions and listen for messages sent from Mars. Mansfield Robinson of England conceived the idea that he could communicate with the Martians by sending a coded message on the Rugby wireless, which was the largest in the world at the time. According to an English account Robinson was charged only 1s6d a word, "which is admittedly a low cost for such a long distance".

During the 1910's and 1920's very little occurred with regard to the general UFO phenomena, and there was only one noteworthy visit by a Martian. A man from N.J. announced he was a Martian, but he was promptly put in an insane asylum.

By the 1930's Tesla was at it again. He now suggested that communications be made with "Television...like moving pictures" so that the language barrier could be bridged. Even at the age of eighty one, Tesla was quite certain he would win the Guzman Prize. In fact he said he was working on a remarkable device which employed "dozens" of his inventions in "several laboratories" which could "be flashed through interstellar space to any distance without the slightest dispersion".

The most curious account in the early 20th century regarding Martians was the one sent to the editor of the London Times in 1933 which was a straight faced account of the French physicist, Piccard, bursting into the Council Chamber of the World Economic Conference to tell them that he had just returned from Mars with important news. The Martians were planning an at-

tack (again) on earth which would start in a few weeks. The writer of the letter, Stecan Foot of Eastbourne College, went on to say the Martians, however, never did launch the attack because earth was too well prepared.

On October 30, 1938 Orson Welles broadcast a radio version of "War of the Worlds" and caused considerable panic in the eastern U.S. Although his dramatization was repeatedly described as fictional it was interpreted as a reality by many. As the Boston Post nearly 41 years ago modified the setting of the Martian story from the London surroundings to the Boston surroundings, Welles modified it to take place in the New York City surroundings, at Dutch Neck, N.J. which was only a few miles from Princeton. Upon hearing the Welles broadcast two Princeton geoscientists promptly went out looking for the meteorite, which always marks the atmospheric entry of the Martians in "War of the Worlds" stories. All these scientists found

however was a massive traffic jam and numerous people anxiously milling about.

The public was once again well conditioned to Martians and a few months later the Worlds Fair meeting in N.Y. City decided to demonstrate earth's capability of repulsing a Martian attack. The demonstration consisted of flying airplanes overhead and firing a variety of large guns near the crowds. While the theme was lighthearted the authorities considered the display also as a demonstration of how the military would function during an air raid. World War II had already begun in Europe.

The only noteworthy scientific discovery regarding the 1939 opposition was the "conclusive proof" of life found by the Royal Astronomer, Slipher. Having the optimum conditions for observing Mars, during a favorable opposition and from S. Africa where Mars would pass nearly directly overhead, Slipher made spectra and found lines indicative of life.

(to be continued)

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GILLESPIE'S 'UNDERCOVER UFO THEORY': A REPLY

by John Prytz

In the Jan./Feb. 1985 issue of the ACUFOS Journal (p.5-7), Frank Gillespie presented his article titled "An Undercover UFO Theory". In the following issue (p.9), I commented that though...

"...I do not agree with all parts of Frank's article...I do not intend to reply in turn...at least for the near future."

Actually, I was hoping somebody else would have a go at it and give me a well earned break from beating upon my typewriter! No such luck! Nobody else (to date) has. Thus, as I feel Frank's contribution too important to let it die a natural (filed and forgotten) death, here I am again, beating upon my typewriter!

Privately, Frank and I have carried on a long and intense correspondence over his ideas - thrust and counterthrust - agreeing when all was said and done to disagree! Thus, nothing I say here will come as a surprise to him, or cause him to sing a new tune. Perhaps he will in turn reply to this - not for my benefit but as an act of sharing his private rebuttals with the readers.

Frank's entire paper pivots on one assumption. (That's good science - if the assumption turns out to be correct.) Frank assumes:

"...that extraterrestrials visiting Earth do not want the inhabitants to become aware of their presence'. I will not attempt to rationalise this assumption - it has been done many times before, using many different approaches."

If that assumption is wrong, all that follows in his article of necessity goes down the plughole! I believe it is wrong. Perhaps Frank should have taken some time and care to rationalise it given that it is the - in fact only - plank on which his theory rests.

We both start with the idea that extraterrestrials are visiting Earth - the ETH. I diverge by suggesting that the "extraterrestrials visiting Earth" do not give a bloody stuff about whether we are, or aren't, aware of their presence! They could care less. They don't have a real reason why they should care - within broad and prudent boundaries of course, no point

in inviting trouble!

Before getting to the nitty-gritty, let's first examine the other far end of the spectrum. That is, that said extraterrestrials are actively seeking out our awareness of their presence. That clearly isn't on! There has been no "take me to your leader", "V"-styled invasion, or attempt at establishing interstellar commerce. Too much time has now elapsed (since the "Modern Era" began) to make that a credible option - although I could be proved a liar tomorrow if the aliens so wished. I'm not worried! I won't lose a moment of sleep over that prospect. In fact, I'd welcome such a definite resolution to the UFO enigma! But I am not - as I'm sure you are not - going to hold my breath over that happening shortly.

So what evidence suggests "they" go about their Earthly business - like I would go out shopping at lunchtime - with little concern for whether anyone noticed them or not?

For one, the very fact this journal exists means that UFOs have been noted. The fact that both Frank and I (in addition to a cast of thousands) have noted them in an extraterrestrial context is telling. They (apparently) abduct and release humans. They are seen in broad daylight, often by dozens of witnesses at a time. They pace automobiles and aircraft. They sometimes leave physical traces behind, with no attempt to cover their (physical) tracks. They get snapped on film and radar. The military forces of the world have confronted them. They have become the subject of, and basis for, a massive terrestrial UFO equals aliens industry. So have they, or have they not, got caught in their alien act? Because they have been found out, it might appear that there exists an alternative answer to Frank's "challenge" - an answer not supported by the evidence. Frank asks:

"The challenge - how else could you get 'caught' a million times, without being 'found out'?"

The obvious answer, don't get caught at all! Prevention is the better part of the cure! If it really had been the wish of these extraterrestrials to try to conceal themselves as something alien, then, I suggest, they have failed - TOTALLY!

If UFOs and 'flying saucers' aren't nearly synonymous with space and 'little green men' in today's collective human consciousness then I don't know what is! Almost from the very beginning the ETH was proposed as not just a minor possibility, but as the major probable solution.

(Then, as now, because that theoretical solution can not be turned into a proven solution, means that no authority can actually and publicly embrace it. But they still willingly, in general, acknowledge the viability of the possibility.) Nothing has changed that in nearly four decades, even though we believe now that it's not an either/or option - the UFO enigma is too complex for an all-encompassing and simplistic theory to be viable. But whether the ETH is a 100% solution, or a 1% solution, is not the issue - the ET's still exist, and are still visiting Earth!

Now because that is not an official government or religious or scientific position, why has the connection between UFOs and ET remained over the years? Obviously through the behaviour of the UFO itself, which ultimately filters through the witness through to the public - and the authorities be damned!

It is ultimately because of UFO behaviour that there exists the UFO equals alien connection. The end result has been hundreds of UFO books, tens of thousands of articles, hundreds of thousands of press clippings, dozens of feature films, another dozen or so TV programmes (not to mention one-off documentaries and specials and talkback shows and news items) and other mass media outlets that over the years have explored the equation. The sum total of this exposure has weighed heavily on the pro-ET side (whether justified or not) relative to any other UFO theory. Therefore, most people do believe the equation UFO equals aliens. Check out the public opinion polls if you doubt exactly how aware we are of their presence and how much we believe in it.

Recall Frank said they didn't want us to "become aware of their presence". Proof is quite another matter. If we prove their presence then that would just complete the failure of (Frank's alleged) UFO undercover operations. But the unravelling has begun. Awareness (via acknowledging even a theoretical possibility) comes before the proof. The mere fact we associate UFOs and aliens with each other is awareness. Thus, at a minimum best, their supposedly undercover operation has been seriously compromised. Their response now should therefore be to leave our environment totally alone for a decade plus - then start again from scratch! Could they succeed if they gave themselves a second chance?

If extraterrestrials are visiting Earth, they must of necessity be astronomically (pun intended) ahead of us in technological knowhow. If they really wished

to hide from us, then I've no doubt that phrases such as 'flying saucers', 'close encounters of the third kind' and 'little green men' wouldn't today be part of our culture. J. Allen Hynek would be a little known astronomer; E. U. Condon remembered for his contribution to physics. Nobody who is anybody - least of all those reading this - would have ever heard of Frank Gillespie or John Prytz. In fact you wouldn't be reading this! But apart from these cultural items...

Our 'awareness' has affected our technology too - witness research into our own 'flying disc' programmes. Both science and the military have become - willingly or otherwise - involved in the UFO issue. This has done nothing to subtract from their awareness (and our awareness) of the possibility of an alien presence. The official scientific and military position is not that UFOs can't or don't equal aliens, but that there is no compelling evidence - in other words proof - yet to hand. Neither collective body denies the possibility, indeed likelihood, of extraterrestrial life existing throughout the cosmos.

So, I assume they could have avoided detection and attention from Day One - if really desired.

If UFOs were trying to do their thing undercover, they wouldn't appear in broad daylight - or if so would camouflage their craft to look like a 747, Piper Cub, or hot-air balloon. At night they'd keep their lights off. They'd do their dirty work almost entirely at 3 a.m. and far off the beaten track - even more so than is currently the case. If they were to abduct someone, the last thing they would do is release him again - at least with any degree of recall and memory of the event.

Actually, remote sensing from the Moon (or high Earth orbit) coupled with some now and again (for essential use only) unmanned probes for close in work would be an ideal modus operandi - given a desire for concealment and high technology ability. Perhaps this was the case in the years prior to their next (1947) step - that of close-in personal work and observation! Perhaps their earlier remote and undetected data gathering suggested to them that it made no odds to them and their safety if they came in close or not. If not, why not?

No, if they had wanted to pass unnoticed - at least as aliens - then they've done a lousy job of it. I don't personally believe they would have!

Perhaps the aliens are stupid! I

think that unlikely in the extreme. Now clearly alien behaviour patterns will be alien. We will have - to a greater or lesser extent - trouble in figuring out and coming to grips with what they do and why they do it. (That trouble probably adds to their alien-ness and our awareness of it!) But there is a vast difference between being different and being stupid. To me - from my perspective - women are different; aborigines are different; Muslims are different; so are the Chinese. But, they are not stupid! Aliens are going to be different. They will not be stupid. Stupidity is not a trait selected for over the millenia by the forces of nature. Mother Nature is an unforgiving bitch - make a stupid mistake, you rarely get a second chance. That applies whether you are an individual or a species; a man or a micro-organism.

If aliens have the brains to be able to survive a hostile and indifferent universe - not to mention billions of years of evolution in the lead-up stages - to get from there to here, then surely they won't have adopted Plan A (the undercover mode) only to have it so poorly executed; gone so poorly wrong that many a UFO witness will report not only that they saw a UFO, but that they saw a 'spaceship' outside their window! Witnesses don't report ghosts and goblins in association with these (solid and metallic) craft - it's alien beings. Some undercover operation! Far better for the ET's to put on a sheet and say "boo" or make a Bigfoot/Yeti suit as a disguise!

Some might say that in the beginning - the very (1947) beginning - ET's didn't realise that there was intelligent life on Earth, thus letting the pussy out of the sack! Thus they have been 'undercover' ever since to correct their earlier blunder. Oh come now! Again, aliens aren't going to be stupid.

If an alien race couldn't tell from thousands of miles out in space that in 1947 there existed a technological civilization on the third planet out from the Sun, then how they ever had the brains to get into space in the first place is quite beyond me! Checking for the existence of intelligent life - always initially to be considered a potential danger - is one of the first things you'd check out by remote sensing if you are in the business of exploring strange new worlds! (Before we sent men to land on the surface of the Moon, us Earthlings undertook an extensive unmanned probe programme first, followed by two manned at-a-distance missions.) As forewarned as possible is as forearmed as

it is possible to be.

Consider the following 'hints' that would have clued them to our intelligent/technological existence, hints obtainable from thousands of miles out. In 1947, we were (radio) broadcasting and had been for some considerable time prior. Other emissions (of more recent vintage) included (embryonic) television transmissions and radar beamings. Our major city lights would have been visible from far out. And spectroscopic analysis of our atmosphere would have shown the presence of unnatural substances - radioactivity (from then above-ground nuclear testing) and various forms of air pollutants.

If the aliens then advanced to be hundreds of miles out, they could easily have observed the broad geometric patterns (roads, farms and fields, etc.) and constructions (cities, dams, etc.) and other signs (aircraft contrails, ship wakes, nuclear flashes, etc.) of human life on Earth now so familiar to ourselves from that perspective via satellite photographs.

No, from D-Day minus one, the aliens would have known we were a technologically intelligent (if in no other way) inhabitant of Earth - and would have executed their exploration programme accordingly with that information to hand.

Shouldn't the aliens have been concerned about our obvious technological ability coupled with our suspecting they were out there and watching us? No! What could we have done to them? Blast them from our skies? Don't forget we're talking about a possible greater us/them evolutionary and technological gap than that which exists between us and our earliest hominid ancestors. It could be thousands of years in our future before we could begin to hold our own against their potential offensive and defensive abilities as they currently exist.

Once they were satisfied that we were a minimal danger to them they would have little reason (other than for moral or ethical or social considerations) to have gone to the trouble of an undercover mode.

What about those moral, ethical and social reasons for avoiding even 'Contact' at the level of an 'awareness of presence'? I guess our 'friends' have weighed the consequences, and based on their value systems have given short shrift to them.

Perhaps not only are we perceived as being unlikely to be a real danger to them, but also as a species irrelevant and unworthy of friendship and respect as equals - sort of akin to how we consider the dolphins and whales. Sure, these marine mammals are intelligent, but we wouldn't say they were our equals (even if they were and by some criteria they are) and we hardly treat them with friendship and respect as advanced animal lifeforms. So what if whales and dolphins are aware of our existence - do you care? It doesn't affect our exploration and exploitation of their ocean home one jot! There's your analogy.

In summary, the apparent purpose behind the alien visits seems to be akin to some sort of knowledge gathering expedition without benefit of formal contact - at least now. Perhaps though they have a view toward gradually getting us aware of their presence - acclimatised as it were - in advance of open contact. But regardless as to whether or not they have such a long range goal, in the immediate here-and-now, to carry out their purpose, they feel neither the need to expose themselves totally nor the need to worry about and engage in total concealment. There must not be any advantage to be gained; their purpose isn't being affected either way. Perhaps though, if the acclimatising scenario is viable, then within the spectrum of 100% open contact to 100% concealment they are somewhere to the left of 100% indifferent.

If Frank's theory is spot on, then the alien visitors have shown incredible stupidity. Their undercover operation has failed because we - including Frank - are aware of their (at least possible) presence.

I prefer to believe that the aliens - if aliens there be - know what they are doing, are being successful at doing it, and if that means accepting that they are largely indifferent to us and in caring whether we are aware of them or not, so be it.

Perhaps the real undercover work is that undertaken by all those leprechauns and pixies, who, disguised as somewhat shy extraterrestrial ships and beings, are having a bloody good laugh at us! We didn't think of that Frank! We may both end up with egg on our face. As they say in pixie-land, the 'yolk's on us' (pun intended)!

by Frank Gillespie

One of the more valid objections to the Extra-Terrestrial Hypothesis and most of its variants, is the apparent paradox of a massive ET presence in the terrestrial environment, given logistical difficulties which seem unsurmountable according to physical laws as we know them. ETH supporters usually counter this objection by quoting the track record of science, where today's laws are built on the foundation of yesterday's misconceptions. While this is perfectly legitimate and logical reasoning, it fails to convince even the mildest of skeptics, and generally leads to accusations of unfalsifiable and hence unscientific theorising.

In "UFOs: the school excursion hypothesis", John Prytz (1985) proposes a new variant of the ETH, which, at first sight, is even more paradoxical, because it requires an ET presence of at least several million within easy commuting distance of Earth. However, John neatly bypasses that problem by suggesting that a space ark (scientifically possible, even if not exactly terrestrially feasible) could easily house and support such a large population. An elegant solution to a difficult problem, but one which raises a number of questions: where is the ark? - how long has it been around? - how long will it stay? - what effects has it had on Earth and its inhabitants? - what further effects will it have?

Addressing the first of these questions, it seems that there are three possibilities. The first is that the space ark is a perpetual traveller, relying on whichever solar system happens to be nearest for resource replenishment, tourist entertainment, and educational excursions. This would, of course, explain many aspects of the UFO phenomenon: its recent genesis; its frantic peak; and, arguably, its current decline. It would also explain an attitude of cold indifference to humans - why should the ETs really care about a temporary inconvenience? Unfortunately, this scenario depends upon some major departures from the realms of scientific possibility - such as fast, economical, energy and mass conserving travel over interplanetary distances and greater. Back to square one!

The second possibility is that the ark is parked somewhere out of sight in the solar system. Given even our current capabilities in astronomy and surveillance, this places it a long long way from Earth,

at least interplanetary distance! Square one again!

The third possibility is the one which John Prytz suggested - that the space ark is Luna, our terrestrial moon. At least this resolves all the paradoxical elements, without requiring any remarkable new science or technology - and it is very definitely falsifiable! It also has a number of very important implications.

One thing is certain, the moon has been orbiting Earth for a very long time - long enough to have influenced the course of evolution through the action of neap and spring tides. Perhaps even long enough to have lost its 'space ark' capabilities; so that it has become a truly passive satellite of a minor planet of an insignificant system of the Milky Way Galaxy. In any event, it has been around long enough that there is no reason to assume or suspect that the inhabitants would intend or wish to leave at short notice. Therefore, two events of the 1940s must have held considerable significance for any lunar dwellers.

The first V2 rocket to arc through the stratosphere must have set alarm bells ringing from Copernicus to the Sea of Moscow. If Man had developed the capability of firing rockets to such heights, it was only a matter of time - and very little time at that - before he would be able to explore the moon. And if Man could go to the moon, he assuredly would! So what? So, could anyone reliably predict Man's reaction to the discovery that he was unwitting host to an alien species, who saw Earth merely as a source of goodies for their use? Man has a nasty word for that sort of creature - and 'parasites' are not noted for their universal popularity.

The first terrestrial nuclear explosion must have really set the cat among the lunar pigeons! Not only did Man's discovery of the moon's 'space ark' role seem imminent, but Man now had the technology to effectively destroy the moon as a habitation - or even to destroy Earth as a source of essential materials. Interference, drastic interference with terrestrial affairs would have to be the order of the day; but, at the same time, detection of this interference would have to be avoided at all costs. In other words, this would have to be a major 'undercover' operation - and for details of how cover could have been maintained in spite of numerous inev-

itable terran encounters, see "An undercover UFO theory" (Gillespie 1985).

As for the 'interference', what evidence is there for this? Well, a once flourishing space programme, which seemed certain to establish a permanent human presence on the moon, has faltered and foundered, with 'man on the moon' no longer a viable goal. Worldwide inflation and recession has ensured that the money which funded space engineering and research can no longer be used so productively. The little money still available must now be directed to the probing of major mysteries encountered at Mars, Saturn and Jupiter - in particular, the "Blivit in the B ring" (Hoagland 1983) has diverted attention away from the relatively minor mysteries of the moon.

At the same time, leakage of scientific secrets and engineering technology has ensured that the arms race, while costing more, has also become more futile. Neither USA nor USSR has been able to gain any decisive advantage; and the situation has progressed through MAD (mutually assured destruction) to the virtual certainty of ESD (eventual self-destruction) for whoever is foolish enough to press the red button first. Add to this the growing public demand for disarmament, especially nuclear

disarmament, and the likelihood of a World War III holocaust must now be diminishing.

We have no way of knowing if any or all of these effects are the result of ET interference in terrestrial affairs. If the School Excursion Hypothesis is on the right track, then it follows logically that they may be - the ETs had both motive and opportunity to manipulate the world in those matters. It also follows that now that the immediate dangers are over, the ETs would no longer need to maintain such a massive terrestrial presence - in fact, to do so would be to court the disaster of being finally 'caught in the act'.

Two comments are needed to complete this discussion. Firstly, the "School Excursion" idea must be modified to become 'Field Training Trip' - surely an essential component of any programme of interference and influence in the progress of Man. Secondly, the ETs should obviously be thought of more as 'sympioties' than 'parasites'; their actions would seem to be generally beneficial rather than detrimental. There does not seem to be as much reason for the ETs to think of us in similar terms. Perhaps this concept is a possible basis for an education and orientation programme, directed towards eventual peaceful awareness and coexistence of Man and ET.

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..... science very much changes our view of the world and our place in it, and it changes our view of man. For me the thing that changed it most in my lifetime was when Neil Armstrong walked on the Moon. I knew the Moon was there but I wasn't sure whether to believe that it was a real solid. So when this guy actually walked on the Moon I thought now we know it's true and that's really incredible! I happened to be listening to the American forces network when this first landing on the Moon occurred and they were retransmitting live from the capsule. We were wondering whether it would crash or sink into layers of dust. They were saying "down three, down two, etc." and then there was a long silence. Then suddenly, and this was the throw away line of the century I believe, we heard the clipped phrase "Tranquility Base, the eagle has landed".

Now we think of man much more as being poised in space. We have satellites for TV and the telephone, and, for spying on each other.

So like it or not, you are bathed in a world view created by science and it permeates your view of the world and of each other and of everything you do.

..... We are told at school that the way science works is by abstraction. The scientist makes observations, and he collects them together, and he sorts them out and makes classifications, and from these classifications he can make a generalization and this generalization is scientific law. I have to tell you that it does not work like that at all. Science is not observed but created by the human imagination.

- F. J. M. Farley

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Compiler's Note: From Day One, Fate has been covering the UFO scene. To date, I've not given any references to Fate's UFO coverage - a situation that cannot go unchecked forever if for no other reason than those items would be among the more readily available to the widest possible (casual or professional) audience of UFO buffs. As this listing is only fairly complete (I hope) through the mid 1970s, I'd welcome readers sending me references to any UFO Fate items not included here (or in the "updates"), in particular from the mid 1970s through the 1980s. In addition, I understand (but have not seen) that Gray Barker recently produced a definitive listing of Fate articles on ufological topics.

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